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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The following statements were made by Colonel Victoriano Benitez Vera, Paraguayan political exile in Buenos Aires, in a recent interview with Dr. Prudencio Mendoza, former professor at the University of La Plata now exiled in Argentina.
- Colonel Benitez Vera declared he has no desire to return to power in Paraguay at the moment although he would like to be back in the Paraguayan army.
 - He has daily contacts with many individuals from Paraguay. He admitted discussing politics with them but denied that he conspired with them.
 - Felipe Molas Lopez was doing a good job as president of Paraguay. Benitez Vera did not think a change in the Paraguayan government was imminent. Only a strong man would be able to rule Paraguay and he considered the military to be best in this respect. He has no use for ex-president Higinio Morinigo of Paraguay, now living in Buenos Aires.
 - Argentina has a deep interest in the destiny of Paraguay. The Argentine government was assisting many Paraguayan army officers exiled in Buenos Aires by providing them with jobs. Benitez Vera himself was living by means of funds which he brought from Paraguay, by handling some real estate business in the Province of Buenos Aires, and by means of a position which he holds in Peron's government on the Junta Para la Vigilancia de la Propiedad Enemiga.
 - The government of Peron was good but Benitez Vera did not believe that it would work in other Latin American countries as the people were not prepared for it. The nationalist elements in Argentina, for whom he expressed great admiration, were growing.
 - American influence was increasing in Latin America and this trend disturbed Benitez Vera. He believed in a strong Latin bloc and thought that it would be a reality some day.

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2. According to source, Dr. Mendoza distrusts Benitez Vera and believes that the latter is only waiting for a good opportunity to return to power in Paraguay. Dr. Mendoza does not think that such an opportunity will arise in the immediate future. Dr. Mendoza further confirmed that the Argentine government is aiding many Paraguayan officers of nationalist tendencies.

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